Encadrement of Posts in CBEC

3909. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3879 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 2000 and state what has been the progress of encadrement of the posts of Chairman and members of Central Board of Excise and Customs within the Customs and Central Excise Service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : Sir, The issue is still under consideration.

Salient Features of Govinda Rao Committee

3910. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the salient points of the interim report of the Govinda Rao Committee on Service Tax ;

(b) the recommendations of the above Committee which were accepted by the Government and those not accepted ; and

(c) the reasons for non-acceptance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The salient points include :—

(i) comprehensive coverage of services under the tax net with a well-defined negative list;

(ii) exemption upto an annual turnover limit of Rs. 10 lakhs for small service providers ;

(iii) comprehensive CENVAT on goods and services by 2004-2005 ;

(iv) input credit facility within service sector immediately and inter-sectoral credits between goods and services alongwith the integration into CENVAT ;

(v) retention of service tax at the rate of 5% for the present;